

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please **CANCEL** claims 11, 14, 15, 26, 39, 45 and 46 without prejudice or disclaimer thereto.

Please **AMEND** claims 1-10, 12, 13, 16-25, 27-38 and 40-44, as follows.

No new claims are added.

1. (Currently Amended) An internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method for at least one service provider comprising steps of:

~~means for~~inputting a business appointment schedule of at least one service provider at a first location;

~~means for~~providing ~~unrestricted~~ access to at least a portion of said service provider's ~~updated~~ business appointment schedule over the Internet to service receivers at a plurality of locations remote from said first location, where said step of providing access includes ~~appointment schedule is visually displayed~~displaying the service provider's business appointment schedule to the service receivers, said service provider's business appointment schedule including ~~access providing means displaying~~ appointments of said service provider which have been reserved and appointments which have not been reserved;

~~means for~~receiving input from said service receivers, said input including ~~which~~ input to schedules appointments ~~with said service provider, including and~~ requests for stand-by appointments for appointment times which are already reserved;

and ~~means for~~updating said service provider's business appointment schedule.

2. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 1 wherein said ~~inputting means~~step of inputting a business appointment schedule of at least one service provider at a first location comprises ~~means for~~ visually displaying said service provider's business appointment schedule~~schedules~~.
3. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 1 wherein said step of inputting a business appointment schedule of at least one service provider at a first location further comprising ~~comprises a plurality of means for~~ inputting a plurality of business appointment schedules of a plurality of service providers at a plurality of remote locations.
4. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 3 wherein at least some of said plurality of service providers are unrelated businesses.
5. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 3 wherein at least some of said plurality of service providers are related business.
6. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 5 wherein at least some of said plurality of service providers are unrelated businesses.
7. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim ~~4-6~~ wherein at least some of said plurality of service providers provide the same type of service.
8. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 1 wherein said the step of input~~receiving input from said service receivers~~ ~~receiving~~ ~~means~~ comprises ~~means for~~ receiving payment information.

9. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system-method~~ according to claim 8 wherein said payment information comprises credit card information.

10. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system-method~~ according to claim 8 wherein said payment information comprises information other than credit card information.

11. (Cancelled)

12. An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system-method~~ according to claim 14 wherein the step of receiving input from said service receivers further comprises receiving requests for stand-by appointments for appointment times which are already reserved and said method further ~~comprising~~ comprises means for notifying any service receiver who requested said already reserved appointment time, if said appointment becomes available.

13. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system-method~~ according to claim 14 further comprising ~~means for~~ informing service receivers that requested stand-by times appointments are no longer available.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended)-An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system-method~~ according to claim 1 wherein said ~~system-method~~ also further comprises ~~means for~~ receiving input of at least one service receiver's schedule and displaying said service receiver's schedule to said service receiver.

17. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 16 further comprising ~~discernible indicia of a schedule conflict which is provided to~~ indicating to a service receiver that a schedule conflict exists if said service receiver inputs an appointment with a service provider which would conflict with the service receiver's schedule.

18. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 17 wherein the step of indicating to a service receiver that a schedule conflict exists ~~said~~ ~~discernible indicia~~ comprises producing a visible display.

19. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 17 wherein the step of indicating to a service receiver that a schedule conflict exists ~~said~~ ~~discernible indicia~~ comprises producing an audible signal.

20. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 16 further comprising indicating ~~indicia of a schedule conflict which is provided to a~~ service receiver if said service receiver inputs an appointment with a service provider which would conflict with the schedule of a person other than said service receiver.

21. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim ~~1-20~~ wherein ~~said inputting means~~ step of inputting a business appointment schedule of at least one service provider at a first location ~~also comprises receives-receiving and updates~~ updating a service provider's personal schedule.

22. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 21 further comprising ~~indicia of~~ indicating a schedule conflict if a service provider inputs a

business appointment schedule which may conflict with said service provider's personal schedule.

23. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim ~~16-22~~ wherein further comprising providing a plurality of service receivers have with coded access to each other's schedules.

24. (Currently Amended) An Internet-based appointment scheduling ~~system~~method according to claim 1 wherein said step of inputting a business appointment schedule of at least one service provider at a first location~~input receiving means~~includes receives-receiving scheduling input from a plurality of service providers and providing a service receiver is provided~~is provided~~ with the ability to schedule an appointment with at least one of said plurality of service providers.

25. (Currently Amended). A network implemented method of scheduling appointments comprising:

~~providing a plurality of service receivers with unrestricted~~ access to at least a portion of a schedule of at least one service provider, and

providing remote appointment scheduling capabilities for at least one service provider, over the Internet, further comprising the steps of:

~~providing means for~~inputting and displaying at least a portion of one a business appointment schedule of at least one service provider at a first location, said appointment schedule including open time slots;

~~inputting at least a portion of a service provider's business appointment schedule into said inputting and displaying means, said portion comprising open time slots;~~

~~providing unrestricted access to a visual displaying of at least a the portion of said service provider's business appointment schedule at a plurality of remote locations to a plurality of service receivers, wherein said displays portion comprises said open time slots for which appointments are available;~~

~~said service receivers providing receiving input to schedule appointments during said open time slots from said remote locations by providing input to schedule appointments with said service provider and thereby changing said service provider's schedule of available appointments to account for the received input.~~

~~wherein said step of displaying said business appointment schedule comprises providing updated displays.~~

26. (Cancelled). ~~A method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 wherein said inputting and displaying means comprises a computer.~~

27. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 wherein said step of receiving input to schedule appointments during said open time slots from said remote locations includes receiving input provided by service receivers ~~provide input~~ through a computer ~~to schedule appointments~~ over the Internet.

28-. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 ~~wherein said step of providing input by said service receiver also~~ further comprising changes changing said service provider's schedule to account for received input to schedule appointments.

29. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 further comprising the step of inputting at least a portion of a service provider's personal schedule.

30. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 29 wherein said service provider's personal schedule is not displayed at said remote locations.

31. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 ~~wherein~~ further comprising inputting a plurality of service providers' schedules ~~are input into said inputting and displaying means.~~

32. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 31 wherein at least portions of said service providers' schedules are displayed at said remote locations.

33. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim ~~31~~ 32 wherein said service providers are located at a single business location.

34. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim ~~34~~33 wherein said service providers are from unrelated businesses.

35. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim ~~34~~33 wherein said service providers are from the same type of business.

36. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim ~~34~~33 wherein said service providers are from related businesses.

37. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 further comprising ~~the~~ a step of requiring some form of payment from a service receiver when a service receiver schedules an appointment with a service provider.

38. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 37 further comprising ~~the~~ a step of verifying a payment from a service receiver.

39. (Cancelled).

40. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim ~~39~~38 further comprising ~~the~~ a step of providing ~~service receivers with~~ a message to service receivers if said previously reserved appointment period becomes available.

41. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 further comprising providing service receivers links to websites unrelated to said service providers.

42. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 further comprising ~~the~~ a step of providing a discernible indication if a service receiver attempts to schedule a conflicting appointment.

43. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 further comprising ~~the~~ a step of providing a discernible indication if a service provider attempts to schedule a conflicting appointment.

44. (Currently Amended). A ~~method~~ network implemented method of providing a plurality of service receivers with remote appointment scheduling capabilities according to claim 25 further comprising inputting a schedule for a person other than said service receiver.

45. (Cancelled).

46. (Cancelled).